



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Immediate Release

STATES RECEIVE NEARLY \$12 MILLION IN FEDERAL AID WILDLIFE FUNDS

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced today that \$11,784,600 has been apportioned to the 48 States for the restoration and development of their wildlife resources during fiscal year 1954.

This amount, which becomes available to State game departments under the terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act, as administered by the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service, represents an increase of \$1,759,494 more than last year's apportionment of \$10,025,106.

A total appropriation of \$12,147,554 includes sums set aside for wildlife in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands and for administration of the Pittman-Robertson Act. This total represents the entire amount credited to the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Fund during the preceding fiscal year from the 11 percent Federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition levied on the manufacturers.

To obtain the Federal grants for wildlife projects, each State must contribute not less than 25 percent of project costs. On the basis of one dollar from the State for every three of Federal funds, \$15,712,800 will be available to the States for Pittman-Robertson wildlife work selected and carried out by them.

Under this Act, which went into effect in 1938, projects consisting of surveys, investigations, land acquisitions, land development for wildlife, and maintenance are submitted by the States to the Fish and Wildlife Service for review. Those projects which are found "substantial in character and design" are then approved on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior.

An amendment to the Act in 1950 provided additional funds for the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii. For fiscal year 1954, both Territories and two island possessions will receive the maximum amounts, namely, Alaska \$75,000; Hawaii \$25,000; Puerto Rico \$10,000; and the Virgin Islands \$10,000.

The formula used by the Fish and Wildlife Service in making State allotments is: one-half the sum to be apportioned is divided according to the ratio which the area of each State bears to the area of all the States. The remaining half is divided on the ratio of paid hunting license holders in each State to the total number of paid license holders in all States.

The Pittman-Robertson Act also provides that no State shall receive more than five percent, nor less than one-half of one percent, of the total amount available to all the States. On this basis, Texas is given the maximum apportionment of \$589,230, while Connecticut, Delaware, Rhode Island, and Vermont receive the minimum of \$58,923.

Allotments for the 48 States for fiscal year 1954 are as follows:

Alabama	\$201,049	Nebraska	\$238,862
Arizona	260,166	Nevada	234,377
Arkansas	198,385	New Hampshire	58,620
California	542,508	New Jersey	77,591
Colorado	381,383	New Mexico	272,687
Connecticut	58,923	New York	463,051
Delaware	58,923	North Carolina	323,706
Florida	157,901	North Dakota	169,638
Georgia	264,688	Ohio	365,323
Idaho	240,362	Oklahoma	222,139
Illinois	323,304	Oregon	288,637
Indiana	236,300	Pennsylvania	443,960
Iowa	257,742	Rhode Island	58,923
Kansas	254,161	South Carolina	119,804
Kentucky	187,680	South Dakota	217,700
Louisiana	196,126	Tennessee	253,156
Maine	137,062	Texas	589,230
Maryland	73,968	Utah	228,441
Massachusetts	65,027	Vermont	58,923
Michigan	558,090	Virginia	218,808
Minnesota	384,389	Washington	314,483
Mississippi	170,614	West Virginia	164,840
Missouri	286,141	Wisconsin	379,403
Montana	369,155	Wyoming	249,251

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